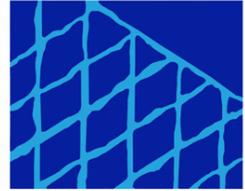
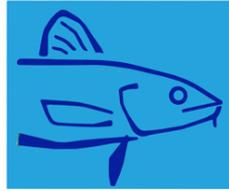
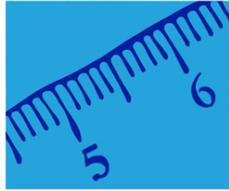


6th INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES OBSERVER & MONITORING CONFERENCE



Portland, Maine, USA

July 20 - 24, 2009

Example of a Successful Abstract

The following abstract was submitted and accepted for presentation at the 2007 International Fisheries Observer Conference. It is provided to illustrate the content of a typical abstract. To submit an abstract for the 2009 IFOMC, please use the web-form provided at www.IFOMC.com. The details of the abstract format are provided on web-form.

Title: Estimating Discards in United States Commercial Fisheries

IFOC Session: P7 – How Are Fishery Monitoring Data Analyzed And Used by Government, Industry, Academics, and NGOs?

Desfosse L, National Observer Program, NOAA Fisheries; Karp WA, North Pacific Observer Program, NOAA Fisheries; Barkas J, National Observer Program, NOAA Fisheries; Brooke S, National Observer Program, NOAA Fisheries

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and international agreements identify the stewardship role of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) in leading the collaborative effort to monitor and reduce the bycatch and discard of living marine resources within the United States Exclusive Economic Zone. NOAA Fisheries plans to develop a national report to provide a comprehensive compilation of regional and national discard estimates in U.S. commercial fisheries. Estimates will be based on information collected by observers and reports submitted by fishers and fish processing companies (e.g. logbooks, trip tickets). The intent of the report is to quantify discards, to the extent possible, for all living marine resources, including fish, marine mammals, sea turtles, and sea birds. The report will also serve as a strategic document to guide future monitoring and data collection, and provide input for setting management goals. NOAA Fisheries intends to evaluate U.S. commercial fisheries for discard data quality and estimation methodologies through a tier classification system. This system will address all aspects of observer program data, industry reported data, supplemental data for use in expansion and verification, and analytical approaches. The report will also address regional bycatch issues, consider the impacts of bycatch on fisheries and ecosystems, and describe methods which have potential for reducing bycatch.

Contact Author:

Lisa L. Desfosse, National Observer Program, NOAA Fisheries, 1315 East West Highway, ST4/Room 12525, Silver Spring, Maryland. 301-713-2363 x145 (phone), 301-713-1875 (fax)